

**ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES ADVISORY COUNCIL
CITY OF BLOOMINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION
REGULAR MEETING**

Wednesday, February 10, 2016
4:30 – 6:00 p.m.

Bloomington Parks and Recreation
Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

None, due to lack of quorum and officers.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Jeff Ehman, Bill Jones, Brett Lackey, David Parkhurst
Staff Present: Steve Cotter, Tim Holt, Elizabeth Tompkins
Public Present: James Farmer

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Postponed.

A. PUBLIC APPEARANCES
None.

B. OLD BUSINESS

B-1 Wapehani Dam Update

Steve Cotter stated he spoke with Phil Peden from the Utilities department and they have secured funding for a feasibility study. A firm called KCI, will evaluate options to repair, breach, or replace the dam. Utilities has allocated \$140,000 for the feasibility study. The final product will include recommendations, drawings required for hiring a contractor, facilitating the bidding process, and construction administration. They expect to take the final study to the Utilities Services Board in the next six weeks and implementation will take place next year.

B-2 Pesticide Use Study Committee Update

Cotter reported the pesticide use policy is complete. This document will be used to guide the creation of an integrated pest management plan. An internal group currently meets weekly to work on the plan. The department has consulted with various other agencies and local experts including John Carter, formerly of MCCSC, who helped create their plan. The pesticide use policy was approved by the park board and the IPM plan will be in place by the end of the year. Chemical consolidation is already taking place and meetings are being held to update procedures even before the plan is in place. Input on the IPM plan is welcome from ERAC members and can be sent to Elizabeth or Steve.

B-3 Winslow Woods Management Plan Update

Cotter reported intern Tim Holt has been working on history research for the property. Weather has prevented inventory work, but a draft of the plan will be created soon. The plan will include interpretive plans, flora and fauna on the property, and encroachment issues. The document will be updated on a regular basis and will be used as a template for other parks. Bill Jones suggested contacting the Monroe County History Center for historical data and Dave Parkhurst has records from 1820 that he will share. The plan will be shared with ERAC for feedback before it is finalized.

C. NEW BUSINESS

C-1 Education Update

Leonard Springs Nature Day volunteer recruitment is taking place for spring program dates and information was sent to members.

After school nature day programs will visit three schools, two days each week through the end of the school year.

Bug Fest is June 25.

MCIRIS SNAYL Day (Sustaining Nature and Your Land Day) is June 11 at City Hall.

James Farmer is working with a team to create a proposal for Grand Challenge. It focuses on green infrastructure in the urban environment. Grand is looking to seed two to three different projects with \$30 million per project.

An IU student will be conducting public opinion surveys on the deer issue with visitors at Griffy Lake Nature Preserve this summer.

C-2 Election of Officers

Postponed.

C-3 2016 Initiatives and Topics of Interest

Plans for Miller-Showers Park

Trail Updates

Switchyard Project

B-Line Trail Extension

Jeff Ehman reported the size of the storm sewer overflow from Grimes Ln. to Gordon Pike needs to be upgraded and funding has been allocated for engineering and design of the project. The line will run through the Switchyard property along the creek and construction in this property will likely be completed by the middle of 2017. The corridor of this storm sewer may be a possible trail corridor as well.

C-4 April 2016 Meeting Agenda Items

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

The next ERAC meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 13 at Winslow Woods Park.